HOUSE RESOLUTION 22

By Harmon

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the thirteen 2009 inductees into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those citizens and educators who, through their unwavering dedication and unflagging commitment to excellence, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, the thirteen 2009 Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Hall of Fame inductees are such noteworthy men who have devoted their lives to the education and instruction of young students and athletes; and

WHEREAS, organized in 1925, the TSSAA is a voluntary, nonprofit, self-supported organization, conceived by teachers, principals, and superintendents and administered by carefully chosen individuals; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Association is to stimulate and regulate the athletic relations of the secondary schools in Tennessee, coordinating athletic and scholastic programs and promoting the development of character, integrity, sportsmanship, and teamwork; and

WHEREAS, with 347 schools in its membership, the TSSAA sponsors men's and women's basketball, track, tennis, volleyball, cross country, soccer, and golf as well as football, wrestling, baseball, and softball,

WHEREAS, the thirteen people inducted into the 2009 TSSAA Hall of Fame include four administrators, five coaches, three officials, and one contributor; and

WHEREAS, these honorable individuals are Bob Baldridge, Mike Bone, Joe Davis, Harry Gill, Ken Bailey, Sam Brooks, Bob Cummings, the late Bryant McDaniel, Lamar Rogers, Bill Arata, Bryan Kennedy, Kenneth Pack, and Larry Counts; and

WHEREAS, Bob Baldridge, an administrator from Nashville, served forty years on the TSSAA staff, helping to develop the classification system and directing the football playoffs since its inception in 1969; he was also a registered lobbyist who served on numerous National Federation of State High School Associations committees; and

WHEREAS, Mike Bone, an educator in Shelbyville for more than forty years, served as the Principal of Shelbyville Central High School and later as Superintendent of Bedford County Schools; and

WHEREAS, Joe Davis, an administrator from Memphis, has served on the TSSAA Board of Control for seven (7) years and was also a prominent TSSAA football and basketball official; and

WHEREAS, Harry Gill, a coach and administrator from Rutherford County, currently serves as the Rutherford County Director of Schools; and

WHEREAS, Ken Bailey, a former basketball coach from East Tennessee, achieved great success at Bulls Gap High School when only one classification was in place; and

WHEREAS, Sam E. Brooks, a coach from South Pittsburg, coached more than 1,700 games, matches, and other high school events over a thirty-four year period, twenty-eight of which he spent coaching at South Pittsburg High School; and

WHEREAS, Bob Cummings, a coach from Nashville, accrued more than 100 victories in a little more than fifteen (15) years as a high school head football coach before he moved into the college and professional sectors; and

WHEREAS, the late Bryant McDaniel was a longtime basketball, track, and cross country coach at Clarksville High School with seven (7) state cross country championships; and

WHEREAS, Lamar Rogers, a women's basketball coach at Clarkrange High School for more than thirty (30) years, compiled more than 900 wins accompanied by seven state championships; and

WHEREAS, Bill Arata, a TSSAA basketball official from Memphis, worked numerous region tournaments and a state tournament and now serves as a supervisor and assigning officer; and

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WHEREAS, Byran Kennedy, a basketball official from Fayetteville, has dedicated nearly fifty years of his professional life to TSSAA; and

WHEREAS, Kenny Pack, a football official from Tullahoma, has been an active officiant for more than forty years, officiating in two high school football games in which the entire crew was composed of Packs (a father and five sons); his father Bill is also a member of the TSSAA Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Larry Counts, a contributor from Murfreesboro, has dedicated more than twenty years to high school athletics, serving as the state championship event director for the TSSAA in football, volleyball, track and field, tennis, baseball, and soccer; and

WHEREAS, these thirteen individuals are men of true character and commitment, exemplifying the type of selfless community servants and civic leaders whom fellow Tennesseans admire for their tireless efforts in molding the State's youth, guiding them with solid principles and high standards in every aspect of their lives; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby join with the family, friends, and colleagues of these thirteen honorable men in celebrating their induction into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame, commending them on their substantial legacy as teachers, coaches, or administrators for Tennessee education, and honoring their steadfast dedication to their students, their communities, and our State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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